

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for assembling timing data in a multi-layer server environment, comprising:
 - 2 generating an HTML based request;
 - 3 depositing a time of generation of the HTML based request in one or more hidden data fields associated with the HTML based request;
 - 4 forwarding the HTML based request to one or more servers that deposit an arrival time in the one or more hidden data fields associated with the HTML based request;
 - 5 generating an HTML based response;
 - 6 transferring the arrival times provided by the one or more servers to one or more hidden data fields associated with the HTML based response;
 - 7 forwarding the HTML based response to one or more servers that deposit a departure time in the one or more hidden data fields associated with the HTML based response.
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2. The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying the one or more hidden data fields to a user.
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3. The method of claim 1, further comprising storing the arrival times and the departure times in the hidden data fields in the HTML based response in a database.
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4. The method of claim 3, further comprising performing analysis on the arrival times and the departure times in the database.
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5. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the arrival time and the departure time is based on a local time associated with the one or more servers.
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- 1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the local time of at least one of the
2 one or more servers is synchronized with at least one other of the one
3 or more servers.

- 1 7. A method for assembling timing data in a multi-layer server
2 environment, comprising:
3 receiving an HTML based request including one or more hidden data
4 fields;
5 depositing an arrival time in the one or more hidden data fields;
6 receiving an HTML based response including one or more hidden data
7 fields; and
8 depositing a departure time in the one or more hidden data fields.
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- 1 8. The method of claim 7, further comprising generating an HTML based
2 response to the HTML based request including one or more hidden
3 data fields.

- 1 9. The method of claim 8, further comprising transferring the arrival
2 time in the one or more hidden data fields in the HTML based request
3 to the one or more hidden data fields in the HTML based response.

- 1 10. The method of claim 7, further comprising storing the arrival time of
2 the HTML based request in a database.

- 1 11. The method of claim 10, further comprising storing the departure
2 time of the HTML based response in a database.

- 1 12. The method of claim 7, further comprising storing data in the one or
2 more hidden data fields of at least one of the HTML based request and

3 the HTML based response in addition to the arrival time and
4 departure time.

- 1 13. A system for assembling timing data in a multi-layer server
2 environment, comprising:
3 a browser for generating an HTML based request including one or
4 more hidden data fields and for displaying an HTML based response
5 including one or more hidden data fields;
6 at least one first server for receiving the HTML based request,
7 depositing an arrival time of the HTML based request into the one or more
8 hidden data fields, and depositing a departure time of the HTML based
9 response into the one or more hidden data fields of the HTML based
10 response;
11 at least one second server for generating the HTML based response,
12 transferring the arrival time of the HTML based request into the one or more
13 hidden data fields of the HTML based response, and depositing the
14 departure time of the HTML based response into the one or more hidden
15 data fields of the HTML based response.
- 1 14. The system of claim 13, further comprising a database for storing the
2 arrival times of the HTML based request.
- 1 15. The system of claim 13, further comprising a database for storing the
2 departure times of the HTML based response.
- 1 16. The system of claim 13, further comprising an internal clock
2 associated with the at least one first server for keeping local time.
- 1 17. The system of claim 13, further comprising an internal clock
2 associated with the at least one second server for keeping local time.

18. The system of claim 13, wherein the at least one first server is a web server.
 19. The system of claim 13, wherein the at least one second server is an application server.
 20. A system for assembling timing data in a multi-layer server environment, comprising:
 - a browser for generating an HTML based request including one or more hidden data fields and for displaying an HTML based response including one or more hidden data fields;
 - an arrival time generator for depositing an arrival time in the one or more hidden data fields of the HTML based request;
 - a processing module for generating the HTML based response; and
 - a departure time generator for depositing a departure time in the one or more hidden data fields of the HTML based response.
 21. A method for assembling metric data related to a multi-layer server environment, comprising:
 - receiving an HTML based request including one or more hidden data fields;
 - depositing metric data in the one or more hidden data fields of the HTML based request;
 - receiving an HTML based response including one or more hidden data fields; and
 - depositing metric data in the one or more hidden data fields of the HTML based response.

- 1 22. A computer-readable medium comprising instructions for assembling
2 timing data in a multi-layer server environment by performing the
3 steps of:
4 generating an HTML based request;
5 depositing a time of generation of the HTML based request in one or
6 more hidden data fields associated with the HTML based request;
7 forwarding the HTML based request to one or more servers that
8 deposit an arrival time in the one or more hidden data;
9 generating an HTML based response;
10 transferring the arrival times provided by the one or more servers to
11 one or more hidden data fields associated with the HTML based response;
12 forwarding the HTML based response to one or more servers that
13 deposit a departure time in the one or more hidden data fields associated
14 with the HTML based response.
- 1 23. An apparatus for assembling timing data in a multi-layer server
2 environment, comprising:
3 means for generating an HTML based request;
4 means for depositing a time of generation of the HTML based request
5 in one or more hidden data fields associated with the HTML based request;
6 means for forwarding the HTML based request to one or more servers
7 that deposit an arrival time in the one or more hidden data;
8 means for generating an HTML based response;
9 means for transferring the arrival times provided by the one or more
10 servers to one or more hidden data fields associated with the HTML based
11 response;
12 means for forwarding the HTML based response to one or more
13 servers that deposit a departure time in the one or more hidden data fields
14 associated with the HTML based response.

- 1 24. A method for assembling timing data in a multi-layer server
2 environment, comprising:
3 generating a request;
4 depositing a time of generation of the generated request in one or
5 more hidden data fields associated with the generated request;
6 forwarding the generated request to one or more servers that deposit
7 an arrival time in the one or more hidden data fields associated with the
8 generated request;
9 generating a response;
10 transferring the arrival times provided by the one or more servers to
11 one or more hidden data fields associated with the generated response;
12 forwarding the generated response to one or more servers that deposit
13 a departure time in the one or more hidden data fields associated with the
14 generated response.
- 1 25. The method of claim 24, further comprising displaying the one or
2 more hidden data fields to a user.
- 1 26. The method of claim 24, further comprising storing the arrival times
2 and the departure times in the hidden data fields in the generated
3 response in a database.
- 1 27. The method of claim 26, further comprising performing analysis on
2 the arrival times and the departure times in the database.
- 1 28. The method of claim 24, wherein at least one of the arrival time and
2 the departure time is based on a local time associated with the one or
3 more servers.

- 1 29. The method of claim 28, wherein the local time of at least one of the
2 one or more servers is synchronized with at least one other of the one
3 or more servers.